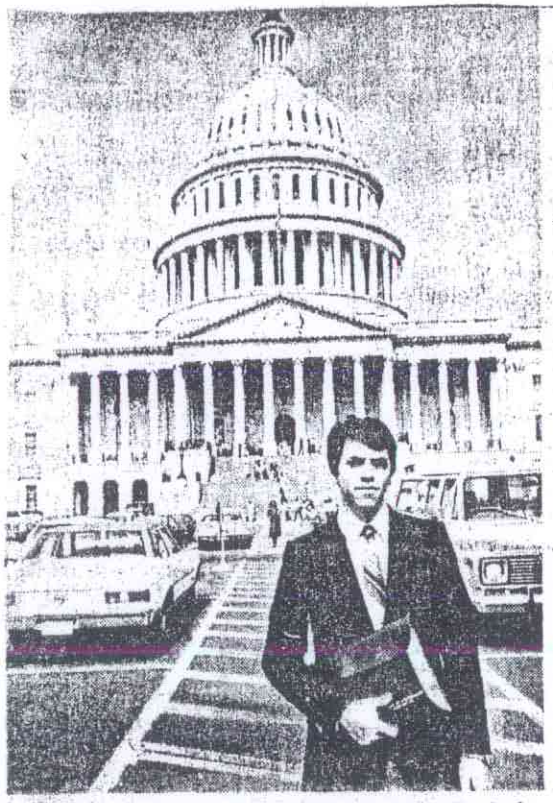
Teenager proves experts wrong over John Kennedy assassination



University student David Lui stands on Capitol Hill, clutching one of the many files he put together on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

By PHILIP FINN

A TEENAGER has come forward with dramatic new evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald had time to fire all the shots during the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

University student David Lui's startling claim contradicts two acoustics' experts who recently told the House Assassinations Committee that another gunman must have been involved because of the timing between shots.

The history student produced his astonishing revelation after carrying out an obsessive search for a key witness—a little girl who was filmed as the President was shot—which started when he was in high school.

Lui, now 19, was only three years old when Kennedy was killed, but the tragedy intrigued him and he began studying it seriously while at Beverly Hills High School, Calif.

As a schoolboy of 15, he even paid $15 for a copy of the famous Zapruder amateur film of the shooting. And one night he watched it 50 times.

Businessman, Abraham Zapruder, had captured dramatic footage of the shooting while filming the President's visit to Dallas for a home movie. The film has since been examined extensively by experts seeking clues to the assassination.

Lui, said: "While watching it, I suddenly saw something that startled me — a young girl, running to keep pace with the presidential limousine, stopped abruptly and turned towards the Texas Book Depository."

Then in a frame-by-frame analysis, he noticed that the girl had stopped at a point on the film split seconds before Kennedy was seen clutching his throat in agony.

He checked with Government records, pinpointed the precise time of the frame in which she stopped, and discovered it was earlier than the time officially recognized as being when the first shot was fired.

In fact, if, as he believed, the girl stopped because she heard a gunshot, this would put timing of the first shot back enough for all the shots to have come from Oswald's rifle, which couldn't be fired faster than once every 2.3 seconds.

Previously, it had been felt that Oswald did not have time to fire all the shots himself.

Lui decided that the only way he would be able to test his theory was to ask the girl herself. But it had been 12 years since the assassination and the task seemed impossible.

However, he refused to be daunted. He spent days in his local library poring over 26 volumes of evidence collected by the Warren Commission, but failed to find a single reference to the girl, aged about 10, and wearing a red skirt and white top.

"I closed the 26th volume in dispair" he said. "So much work had been in vain. When I left the library, I thought that there was no way I was ever going to find the girl.

Then he had the bright idea that the girl could have been the daughter of one of [illegible] of them with a marathon letter-writing campaign.

Then he persuaded his mother to join his needle-in-a-haystack search and go with him to Dallas to call on some of the witnesses.

They spent three days there, and were both leg weary and frustrated when they contacted Phil Willis, the last man on the list.

To their amazement, he took one look at the frame from Zapruder film and said "That's my daughter, Rosemary."

Lui contacted Rosemary, now a schoolteacher in Dallas, and she told him "I stopped when I heard the shot."

That simple reply meant that the firing of the first shot was pushed back split seconds, leaving enough time for a single assassin to have fired all the shots.

Lui, a student at Brown University, Providence, R.I., said: "No longer is there any doubt that the little girl had stopped running in reaction to a rifle shot.

Now his findings are in the hands of the Assassinations Committee, whose official report is expected this summer.

The committee will have to decide whether the acoustics' experts or Lui were right.

Dallas police department radio specialists have constantly disputed the findings of the acoustic scientists. The police insist that an open police motorcycle radio, which picked up purported gunshot sounds, and which the experts partly base their theory upon, was actually two miles from the assassination scene.

A spokesman for the Assassinations Committee said: "This young man's research was incredibly detailed, and is very useful to us in trying to make our asessments on what happened that day in Dallas."